UNITED STATES BANKRUPTC	Y COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEV	V YORK

In re	)	Chapter 11
	)	Case No. 23-11071 (PB)
560 SEVENTH AVENUE OWNER SECONDARY LLC	, )	
	)	
D 1.	)	
Debtor.	)	

## SECURED PARTY'S REPLY TO DEBTOR'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM STAY

AREPIII MVTS, LLC and CREP TIMES SQUARE HOTEL LLC (together,

"Secured Party")<sup>1</sup>, by its attorneys Paul Hastings LLP, respectfully submits this reply to the "Debtor's Opposition to Motion of Secured Mezzanine Lender for Relief from the Automatic Stay" dated and filed July 30, 2023 (the "Opposition") [ECF Doc 19], and in support thereof, alleges as follows:

1. By Secured Party's motion (the "Motion"), Secured Party seeks relief from the stay provided by §362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code to permit it to proceed with a UCC disposition of collateral (the "UCC Disposition") securing a loan (the "Loan") owed to it by 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Secondary LLC (the "Debtor"). The UCC Disposition was scheduled to take place on July 10, 2023, and was automatically stayed as a result of the filing of the Chapter 11 petition herein

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Whenever Secured Party is referenced herein, it shall mean either AREPIII MVTS, LLC, individually, before the sale of 50% of the loan referenced herein, or both AREPIII MVTS, LLC and CREP Times Square Hotel LLC, together, after the sale of 50% of the loan.

on July 9, 2023, just one day before the scheduled auction and following the Debtor's unsuccessful effort to obtain an injunction from the New York State Supreme Court to stop the sale.

- 2. As demonstrated in the Motion, the Debtor is indebted to Secured Party in an amount in excess of \$85 million, which indebtedness is secured by 100% of the membership interests in 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC ("Primary"), the owner in fee simple of the Margaritaville Times Square Resort (the "Property" or the "Hotel"). As was also demonstrated in the Motion, there is no dispute that the Debtor is in default under the Loan or that Secured Party has every right under the loan documents to proceed now with the UCC Disposition.
- 3. Simply put, there is nothing in the Debtor's Opposition that would justify maintaining the automatic stay to prevent the UCC Disposition from proceeding. The Debtor's Opposition is directed solely to the business affairs of Primary and the Property itself and the multitude of issues affecting the Property, its operation and its value. But, the Opposition completely ignores the facts and circumstances specifically applicable to this Debtor and to this case before the Court. Any discussions of the Property bear only on the value of Secured Party's collateral and whether or not Secured Party is entitled to the relief sought by the Motion. This bankruptcy case is nothing more than a one asset, one creditor case. There is nothing to reorganize and no possibility of confirming any plan of reorganization.
- 4. The Property is collectively encumbered by a total direct and indirect indebtedness of approximately \$355 million (exclusive of exit fees, selling/transfer costs, accrued liabilities and other obligations). This aggregate indebtedness is comprised of a senior mortgage loan on the Property (with a current accrued balance of approximately \$157 million,<sup>2</sup> before applying any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A previous balance of approximately \$167 million was just recently reduced by Senior Lender by approximately \$10 million, due to the application of reserves held by Senior Lender and not as a result of any payment by Primary.

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remaining reserves held by the "Senior Lender"), plus the senior mezzanine Loan owed to Secured Party (with a current accrued balance of approximately \$85 million), plus a junior mezzanine loan (with an initial principal balance of \$85 million and a current accrued balance of approximately \$113 million, according to the default notice and interest shortfall notice issued by the "Junior Mezzanine Lender" on March 31, 2023).

- 5. As of today, there is no reasonable possibility of repaying or refinancing the entire debt stack applicable to the Property, let alone any significant portion thereof. In simple terms, the Property is grossly overleveraged, and the ultimate equity holders are wiped out in total. The suggestion that Primary is set to file its own Chapter 11 petition is nothing more than an attempt to further delay the inevitable in this case. Possessing a non-committal term sheet for \$170 million of refinancing is not evidence of an ability to satisfy any significant portions of the debt stack. As has now been confirmed by the Debtor's own schedules filed July 30, 2023, the only asset of the Debtor is its membership interest in Primary, and the only known creditor of the Debtor is Secured Party.
- 6. As a first point of attack in its Opposition to the Motion, the Debtor submits that the Hotel itself has an appraised value in the range of between \$273 million and \$302 million and a potential stabilized value of between \$307 million and \$339 million some two years from now. In support of these values, the Debtor presents to the Court what is captioned as a "Pricing Opinion of Value." This "Pricing Opinion of Value" cannot be taken as an accurate reflection of the Property's real value for several reasons. First, the "Pricing Opinion of Value" is not a full, qualified appraisal, and cannot be viewed as such. Second, even if it could, the only relevant valuation contained in that document is what the Property is worth today, which the Debtor contends is \$273 million to \$302 million. What the Hotel may be worth two years from now,

assuming its operations can indeed be stabilized in two years, is irrelevant to what the Hotel is worth today and irrelevant to the question of whether the ultimate equity holders have any actual equity here, which they do not by their own admissions. Third, the Debtor's "Pricing Opinion of Value" intentionally ignores the significant fact that the Gaming Trades Council has already been designated as the Hotel's collective bargaining representative for House Persons and Room Attendants (something acknowledged by the Debtor in footnote 1 of its Opposition, but something the Debtor totally failed to disclose to its evaluator), and therefore the Hotel will inevitably be unionized.<sup>3</sup> As is confirmed in the letter annexed hereto as Exhibit A, and as is widely known in the industry and was discussed extensively between Secured Party and the Debtor before the closing of the Loan in 2021, the unionization of the hotel would reduce the value of the Property from between 15% and 20%, would substantially reduce the ability of Primary to refinance its debt and/or to sell the Hotel, and would further reduce the possibility of repaying the Loan in full. A 15% reduction in the value of the Property would equate to a corrected market value of between \$232 million and \$275 million against almost \$400 million of indebtedness and unfunded obligations, and a 20% reduction in the value of the Property would equate to an even lower corrected market value. Fourth, the Debtor deliberately withheld other relevant factors from the evaluator, all of which materially affect the Property's value. For example, the evaluator was instructed to assume that the GCC synagogue space (which is described below and is the subject of pending litigation), would be leased out as retail, and to assume that the 12,698 square feet would rent for \$125/sq. ft. However, the GCC lease provides for an annual rental of only \$1/annum, through 2076. Ignoring this lease (and assuming that the Debtor will prevail in the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Unionization of the Hotel was confirmed as early as March 23, 2022 when the Union had majority support of housekeeping employees, which was reaffirmed with a second card count on February 2, 2023 and adjudicated with a March 17, 2023 award in favor of the Union (when a daily penalty of \$41,886 was imposed if the Hotel failed to provide documentation within 10 days).

pending litigation by the synagogue seeking to enforce it) inflates the annual income by \$1,587,250. The evaluator was further instructed to assume that an additional 1,683 square foot mezzanine would be constructed above the existing retail space, increasing the rentable square footage from 4,765 sq. ft. to 6,731 sq. ft. At an assumed lease rate of \$450/sq. ft., that equates to an overstatement of income by \$884,700 per annum. Significantly, none of these assumptions include any costs associated with renovation of the space, tenant improvements, buildout of the mezzanine, or resolution of the GCC lease. As a clear sign of the Debtor's tendency toward misconduct, the historical financials provided to the evaluator differ materially from the financials provided to Secured Party, inflating 2022 Net Income from \$5.1M to \$7.0M (Exhibit B). This inflated Net Income served as the basis for the evaluator's pro forma, significantly overstating future earnings of the Property. An example of information that was withheld from the evaluator is the fact that the food and beverage lessee receives 40% of the Resort Fee charged to guests, amounting to \$1.2M in 2022 and budgeted to be \$1.4M in 2023 according to the Debtor's 2023 Budget. But the evaluator included these amounts as if they would be paid to the Debtor and not to the lessee. Historical franchise fees are also significantly understated which, again, fails to take into account actual expenses of the Property. Lastly, the Debtor fails to address how the many operational issues affecting Primary and the Property directly affect the value of the membership interest in Primary, the collateral for the Loan.

7. As was noted in the Motion, Margaritaville Enterprises, the franchisor of the Hotel, claimed to be owed \$1,205,935.11 as of May 11, 2023 (as per its letter attached to the Opposition

as Exhibit F). Under the license agreement, the franchisor can terminate at any point based on failure to pay. Secured Party cannot allow this agreement to be terminated.<sup>4</sup>

- 8. As was also noted in the Motion, Primary owes substantial arrears to its food and beverage operator. On June 29, 2023, the food and beverage operator gave notice that Primary owed over \$1 million in past due amounts under the food and beverage lease and demanded that Primary pay the full amount due by July 15, 2023. This indebtedness was funded by Secured Party, in the form of a protective advance, to prevent the food and beverage lease from declaring a default under and terminating its lease. If the food and beverage lease is ever terminated, the Hotel would turn from a full service hotel to a limited service hotel, without any food and beverage operations, significantly affecting occupancy levels and occupancy rates. The ultimate owner of the Hotel would then need to find a replacement food and beverage tenant or tenants, switching away from the Margaritaville theme, which would further devalue the value of Secured Party's collateral. Secured Party cannot allow this agreement to be terminated.<sup>5</sup>
- 9. Additionally, since the filing of the Motion, it has come to the attention of Secured Party that the Debtor's ongoing disputes with the hotel manager, DHG TSQ, LLC ("Dream"), resulted in an adverse judgment being entered against Primary on July 13, 2023 in favor of Dream for the amount of \$3,111,115.25. A copy of such judgment is annexed hereto as Exhibit C. While the Debtor now asserts in its Opposition that "the relationship with [Dream] is irrevocably fractured" and that "[a]ccordingly, the Hotel intends to retain a new management company," previously in April 2023 Dream requested consent from the Debtor that the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> It should be noted that monies owed to Margaritaville Enterprises were withdrawn from the Property, despite the fact that the Debtor provided financial documents to Secured Lender representing that those monies would be used to make payment to the franchisor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> As was the case with monies owed to Margaritaville Enterprises, it should also be noted that monies owed to the food and beverage lessee were likewise withdrawn from the Property and not used to make payment.

management agreement be assigned to Highgate Hotels, which is a reputable hotel manager with the resources to manage the Property. All of the Property's direct and indirect secured parties, including Secured Party, gave consent to this assignment, but the Debtor refused to grant its consent.

- 10. On July 14, 2023, a mechanic's lien was filed against the Property by Flintlock Construction Services LLC ("Flintlock"), Primary's general contractor, claiming an unpaid balance due of \$2,763,091.77. On July 11, 2023, a mechanic's lien was filed against the Property by Broadtrade Group Inc., an apparent subcontractor of Flintlock, claiming an unpaid balance due of \$302,158.56. Copies of these mechanic's liens are annexed hereto as Exhibit D.
- 11. Lastly, there is a major ongoing dispute with the Garment Center Congregation ("GCC" or the "synagogue") over Primary's failure to provide and construct a replacement facility at the Property. The details of this dispute, which highlight the unethical business practices of Primary and one of its major principals, describe claims against Primary for injunctive relief and damages in excess of \$5,000,000.00 (which amount does not even include the potential costs relating to the construction of the Replacement Premises at the Property ) and are set forth in the Amended Complaint of GCC, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit E.
- 12. With all of this going on, the Debtor's assertion that Primary is being properly managed is far from credible. Numerous parties could at any time declare defaults, terminate critical agreements, and/or pursue remedies under judgments that would be devastating to the Property's value. Primary is managed by Soho Properties ("Soho"), an affiliate of the Debtor. A public sale of the membership interest in Primary and a resulting change in ownership and management of Primary is clearly the best route to a resolution of these problems, rather than

through the purely vindictive Chapter 11 filing by the Debtor and the threatened Chapter 11 filing by Primary.

- Property are simply not credible. First and foremost, it should be obvious that there is little appetite in the market to provide the level of financing necessary to satisfy the existing debt when taking into account the actual value of the Property. Tellingly, the Debtor's failed efforts to refinance are fully set forth in the Motion. Simply reiterated, for over a year the Debtor has claimed to have adequate refinancing opportunities and, for over a year, the Debtor has failed to make good on those claims or to provide even basic support for its assertions that it has capital partners lined up. Even when the Debtor made proposals to refinance the Loan, those offers were always far below the total indebtedness outstanding on the Loan.
- 14. Secured Party has never breached any aspect of the Loan and the Debtor has never alleged otherwise, so no legal or logical basis exists to preclude Secured Party from pursuing its remedies based on the Debtor's default.
- 15. To summarize, what was set forth in a recent draft proposed restructuring plan submitted to Secured Party by the Debtor totally undercuts the arguments presented by the Debtor in its Opposition. According to the Debtor's own draft reorganization plan, the Hotel had the following indebtedness:

\$165,656,253
\$ 85,000,000
\$113,135,873
\$ 11,667,010

Cumulative Loans: \$375,459,136

In addition to what the Debtor disclosed in its draft reorganization plan, there are apparently tens of millions of dollars of additional claimed liabilities:

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Obligations to GCC	\$5M - \$10M
Past due payables for which funds	
were diverted by Primary <sup>6</sup>	\$4M - \$5M
Additional past due payables	\$1M - \$2M
Dream judgment	\$3.1M
Potential union judgment <sup>7</sup>	\$2M - \$4M
Mechanic's liens	\$3M

Burdened with that amount of debt, it is ludicrous for the Debtor to claim that there is any equity whatsoever in the membership interest in Primary, the sole collateral for the Loan. It is also ludicrous to claim that the Property is being properly managed by Soho, its affiliate. In addition to running up huge unpaid bills, the Debtor gives no credible explanation as to why leasing of the commercial retail space, which the Debtor claims could potentially generate an additional \$2-4 million per year, has not yet commenced. And, Secured Party was compelled to make aggregate protective advances of \$2,425,305.74 to the Senior Lender in response to demands by Senior Lender to cover debt service and replenish reserves in order to prevent the Senior Mortgage from going into default.

16. Secured Party could go on and on with describing the plethora of problems plaguing the Property and responding to the false accusations made by the Debtor in support of its Opposition to the Motion. So as to make a complete record, Secured Party has prepared detailed responses to the Debtor's accusations, which responses are incorporated and made a part of this Reply as Exhibit F hereto. But, suffice to say, the simple issue before the Court is whether there

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This amount represents items that were budgeted by Primary and funded by Senior Lender, but the funds were never used to pay these items.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This item represents potential liability to the Union for assessed daily penalties resulting from Primary's failure to provide the Union with required documentation relating to the unionization of the Hotel.

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is indeed any equity in Secured Party's collateral and whether there is any scenario where any

effective reorganization is possible. The simple answer is "NO."

WHEREFORE, Secured Party respectfully requests that the Court grant the Motion and

terminate the stay provided by §362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, so as to permit Secured Party to

proceed with the UCC Disposition of the membership interest in Primary and to exercise any and

all of its other rights and remedies attributable to the Loan, and grant such other and further relief

as may to the Court appear just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York August 1, 2023

PAUL HASTINGS LLP

By: /s/ Harvey A. Strickon

Harvey A. Strickon

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## **EXHIBIT A**



200 West 41st Street, Suite 602 New York, NY 10036 (212) 300-6684 www.lwhospitalityadvisors.com

August 1, 2023

Greg Denton
Managing Director
Arden Group
1600 Market St, Suite 2600
Philadelphia PA 19103

Re: Pricing Opinion of Value of the Margaritaville Resort Times Square

560 7th Ave

New York, New York County, NY 10018

LWHA® Job No.: 23-NY-674AC

To Mr. Denton:

We were retained to conduct a pricing opinion of Margaritaville Resort Times Square with an effective date of January 1, 2023. The report was delivered on March 2, 2023. Under the assumptions and considerations contained in the pricing opinion completed, the concluded value range of the as is market value as of the effective date was \$268,700,000 to \$316,200,000. The range of the as stable market value as of January 1, 2025, was \$304,100,000 to \$357,000,000. At the time of the pricing opinion, we were informed that the property was non-union, and projected accordingly as a non-union asset. As such, our opinions of value were based upon the assumption of continued operation as a non-union hotel.

We have been asked to advise the Client on impact on value of unionizing the property. While we have not conducted an independent assessment of this potential impact, based upon our experience with hotels in New York City, discussions with asset managers local to the Manhattan market, and a review of union expense comparables, we believe unionization would cause a decrease in cash flows and would likely result in a downward impact on value in the range of 15% to 20% below the value range concluded to in our pricing opinion.

The charts contained herein summarize the limited analysis conducted to produce this letter. *Please note this letter should not be considered or relied upon independent of the complete pricing opinion report dated March 2, 2023.* No updated financial information or data has been considered.



### **Union Hotel – Expense Comparables**

The below comparables are unionized full-service hotels located in Manhattan. Please note the comparables are masked for confidentiality purposes.

### Note, the line items highlighted in yellow indicate departments expected to be most impacted by unionization at the subject property.

Category	Comp \	Weighted Av	verage	Co	Comp Hotel 1		С	omp Hotel 2		Comp Hotel 3			C	omp Hotel 4		C	omp Hotel 5	
															'			
	Ratio to Sales	PAR	POR	Ratio to Sales	PAR	POR	Ratio to Sales	PAR	POR	Ratio to Sales	PAR	POR	Ratio to Sales	PAR	POR	Ratio to Sales	PAR	POR
Revenue																		
Rooms Revenue	83.3%	105,595	315.89	89.2%	98,014	380.42	87.6%	101,675	362.34	85.8%	90,998	295.41	91.3%	64,997	278.33	78.8%	118,132	297.36
Food & Beverage Revenue	11.2%	15,735	43.14	8.9%	9,725	37.75	9.0%	10,409	37.10	2.4%	2,521	8.19	0.0%	0	0.00	16.3%	24,413	61.45
Other Operated Departments Revenue	0.6%	613	2.26	1.9%	2,111	8.19	0.9%	992	3.54	1.0%	1,022	3.32	0.1%	98	0.42	0.0%	0	0.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.5%	688	1.73	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00	0.9%	1,315	3.31
Amenity/Resort Fee Revenue	3.5%	4,471	12.74	0.0%	0	0.00	2.6%	2,991	10.66	4.3%	4,556	14.79	8.5%	6,071	26.00	4.0%	5,978	15.05
Retail Lease Income	0.5%	547	1.78	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00	3.4%	3,654	11.86	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00
Food & Beverage Lease Income	0.5%	492	1.60	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00	3.1%	3,282	10.65	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00
Total Revenue	100.0%	128,141	379.13	100.0%	109,851	426.36	100.0%	116,067	413.64	100.0%	106,033	344.22	100.0%	71,166	304.75	100.0%	149,838	377.17
Departmental Expenses																		
Rooms Expense	41.2%	43,060	129.55	37.8%	37,090	143.95	41.6%	42,312	150.79	43.4%	39,465	128.12	54.9%	35,704	152.89	39.9%	47,143	118.67
Food & Beverage Expense	124.6%	20,388	58.20	213.0%	20,712	80.39	184.7%	19,224	68.51	71.6%	1,805	5.86	0.0%	191	0.82	116.2%	28,373	71.42
Other Operated Departments Expense	17.2%	127	0.43	6.7%	142	0.55	0.0%	0	0.00	62.5%	638	2.07	100.2%	98	0.42	0.0%	0	0.00
Total Departmental Expenses	49.4%	63,575	188.19	52.7%	57,944	224.90	53.0%	61,536	219.30	39.5%	41,909	136.05	50.6%	35,993	154.13	50.4%	75,516	190.09
Departmental Income (Loss)	50.6%	64,566	190.94	47.3%	51,906	201.46	47.0%	54,531	194.34	60.5%	64,124	208.17	49.4%	35,173	150.62	49.6%	74,322	187.08
Undistributed Operating Expenses																		
Administrative & General	9.7%	12,039	36.83	11.9%	13,066	50.71	12.4%	14,356	51.16	13.2%	13,952	45.29	7.1%	5,049	21.62	7.8%	11,658	29.35
Information & Telecommunications Systems	2.6%	3,297	10.06	4.0%	4,419	17.15	3.0%	3,449	12.29	1.6%	1,682	5.46	2.5%	1,811	7.76	2.4%	3,550	8.94
Sales & Marketing	5.7%	7,128	22.01	8.1%	8,900	34.54	7.7%	8,888	31.67	7.6%	8,033	26.08	3.2%	2,304	9.87	4.4%	6,602	16.62
Franchise Fees	3.8%	5,587	14.66	0.0%	0	0.00	5.6%	6,553	23.35	0.0%	0	0.00	0.0%	0	0.00	6.4%	9,604	24.18
Utility Costs	3.0%	3,789	11.55	3.6%	3,919	15.21	3.5%	4,073	14.52	3.0%	3,197	10.38	4.4%	3,102	13.29	2.6%	3,955	9.96
Property Operation & Maintenance	5.3%	6,449	20.03	5.5%	6,089	23.63	7.2%	8,385	29.88	6.2%	6,527	21.19	10.5%	7,485	32.05	4.1%	6,095	15.34
Total Undistributed Operating Expenses	30.2%	38,289	115.14	33.1%	36,393	141.25	39.4%	45,703	162.88	31.5%	33,392	108.40	27.8%	19,752	84.58	27.7%	41,465	104.38
Gross Operating Profit (GOP)	20.4%	26,277	75.80	14.1%	15,513	60.21	7.6%	8,828	31.46	29.0%	30,733	99.77	21.7%	15,421	66.04	21.9%	32,857	82.71

#### Comparison – Union Expense Comparables vs. Subject Actuals

We compared the average of the above presented union expense comparables to the actual subject financials (most recent presented in our report: trailing 12-month period through October 2022). Based on our experience, and considering discussions with LWHA Asset Management Group, unionization typically has the most impact on rooms expense and property operations and maintenance expense. These increases are primarily driven by increases in wages as well as benefits/pension costs, and restrictions realized via work rules.

The comparison is below:

LWHA Analyais	Union Comp	Union Comparables Average			Margaritaville Times Square: Actual TTM 10/2022 performance				on
	Ratio to Total Revenue	PAR	POR	Ratio to Total Revenue	PAR	POR		Union Avg. <u>over</u> Subject Actual	Focus Metric
Rooms Expense	41.2%	\$43,060	\$129.55	39.6%	\$29,557	\$111.56		16.1%	POR
Property Operation & Maintenance	5.3%	\$6,449	\$20.03	4.4%	\$3,809	\$14.38		39.3%	POR
Gross Operating Profit (GOP)	20%	\$26,277	\$75.80	35%	\$29,780	\$112.40		-41.1%	%

As shown in the table above, the union comparables average a gross operating profit approximately 41% lower than the subject property. The comparison indicates that this decreased profitability is driven by higher Rooms expenses and Property Operation & Maintenance.

#### **Third Party Analysis**

In addition to the internal findings above, we reviewed financial projections provided by the Client, which were prepared by a third-party management company familiar with operations of union hotels in New York. Their analysis concluded that unionization would decrease the subject hotel's Net Operating Income by approximately \$3M per annum on a stabilized basis. This decrease was driven entirely by an expected \$35 POR (or 35%) increase in Rooms expenses, and a \$5 POR (or 28%) increase in Property Operation & Maintenance.

The analysis is summarized below:

Analysis Provided by Client (via Third Party Management Company)	_	Margaritaville Times Square: 2027 Projections - Unionized			Margaritaville Times Square: 2027 Projections - NOT Unionized				on
	Ratio to Total Revenue	PAR	POR	Ratio to Total Revenue	PAR	POR		Union Scenario <u>over</u> Non-Union Scenario	Focus Metric
Rooms Expense	26.7%	\$43,315	\$135.21	19.8%	\$33,687	\$100.51		34.5%	POR
Property Operation & Maintenance	4.8%	\$8,413	\$24.30	3.8%	\$6,374	\$19.02		27.8%	POR
Gross Operating Profit (GOP)	46%	\$78,444	\$234.06	54%	\$91,842	\$274.03		-14.6%	%



#### Adjusted Cash Flow Projections

Based on the above findings, we prepared adjusted cash flow projections. Utilizing the analysis prepared for the pricing opinion dated March 2, 2023, we employed an increase to the Rooms and Property Operations & Maintenance departments. The charts below show the stabilized period (Year 3; 2025) in both the original scenario (non-union), and the adjusted scenario (unionized).

In consideration of our internal analysis of expense comparables and of the analysis provided by the client (presented on the preceding page), we have estimated an increase of 30% to Room expenses and an increase of 35% to Property Operations and Maintenance.

The cash flows are presented below:

Margaritaville Resort Times Square									
Cash Flow Detail	Cash Flows Submit	ted in March 2, NOT UNION	2023 Pricing	Opinion		А	djusted Cash F UNION	lows	
	S	tabilized DCF Ye	er3			S	abilized DCF Y	ear 3	
Projected Fiscal Year Ending December 31:	2025					2025			
Number of Days in Year:	365					365			
Number of Rooms:	234					234			
Annual Available Rooms:	85,410					85,410			
Occupied Rooms:	75,161					75,161			
Annual Occupancy:	88.00%					88.00%			
Average Rate:	374.08					374.08			
RevPAR:	329.19					329.19			
Revenue	Amount	Gross %	PAR	POR		Amount	Gross %	PAR	POR
Rooms Revenue	28,116,077	68.7%	120,154	374.08		28,116,077	68.6%	120,154	374.0
Other Operated Departments Revenue	347,341	0.8%	1,484	4.62		347,341	0.8%	1,484	4.6
Amenity/Resort Fee Revenue	2,746,560	6.7%	11,737	36.54		2,746,560	6.7%	11,737	36.5
Retail Lease Income	4,889,165	12.0%	20,894	65.05		4,889,165	11.9%	20,894	65.0
Food & Beverage Lease Income	4,813,697	11.8%	20,571	64.05		4,878,456	11.9%	20,848	64.9
Total Revenue	40,912,839	100.0%	174,841	544.34		40,977,598	100.0%	175,118	545.2
					Increase to POR				
Departmental Expenses					<u>Metric</u>				
Rooms Expense	7,473,487	26.6%	31,938	99.43	30%	9,715,533	34.6%	41,519	129.2
Other Operated Departments Expense	165,337	47.6%	707	2.20		165,337	47.6%	707	2.2
Total Departmental Expenses	7,638,824	18.7%	32,645	101.63		9,880,870	24.1%	42,226	131.4
Departmental Income (Loss)	33,274,015	81.3%	142,197	442.70		31,096,728	75.9%	132,892	413.7
Undistributed Operating Expenses									
Administrative & General	2,205,904	5.4%	9,427	29.35		2.207.207	5.4%	9.433	29.3
Information & Telecommunications Systems	2,203,904	0.7%	1,227	3.82		2,207,207	0.7%	1,227	3.8
Sales & Marketing	1,562,309	3.8%	6.677	20.79		1,563,382	3.8%	6.681	20.8
Franchise Fees	1,893,439	4.6%	8.092	25.19		1,893,439	4.6%	8,092	25.1
Utility Costs	880,627	2.2%	3,763	11.72		880.858	2.1%	3,764	11.7
Property Operation & Maintenance	1,007,499	2.5%	4,306	13.40	35%	1,361,179	3.3%	5,704	18.1
Total Undistributed Operating Expenses	7,836,843	19.2%	33,491	104.27	3370	8,193,238	20.0%	35,014	109.0
Total Oliustributed Operating Expenses	7,830,843	13.2/0	33,431	104.27		8,153,238	20.0%	33,014	105.0
Gross Operating Profit (GOP)	25,437,172	62.2%	108,706	338,44		22,903,489	55.9%	97,878	304.7
and operating train ( dor )	25,151,212	O E I E / G	200,100	333111		22,500,105	22,270	31,010	30 111
Fixed Charges									
Management Fee	936,299	2.3%	4,001	12.46		936,299	2.3%	4,001	12.4
Property Taxes	2.581.678	6.3%	11.033	34.35		2.581.678	6.3%	11.033	34.3
Insurance	368,717	0.9%	1,576	4.91		368,717	0.9%	1,576	4.9
Reserve for Replacement	1,248,399	3.1%	5,335	16.61		1,248,399	3.0%	5,335	16.6
Total Fixed Charges	5,135,094	12.6%	21,945	68.32		5,135,094	12.5%	21,945	68.3
•									
Hotel Cash Flow	20,302,078	49.6%	86,761	270.12		17,768,396	43.4%	75,933	236.4
					GOP Impact	-\$2,533,682	-10.0%	-\$10,828	-\$3
					NOI Impact	-\$2,533,682	-12.5%		-\$3

As shown in the table above, the impact of the union would decrease gross operating profit and net operating income by approximately \$2.5 million (a 10% decrease from non-union GOP, and a 12.5% decrease from non-union NOI).



#### **Sales Comparables**

We also reviewed a select number of recent union and non-union hotel sales in Times Square. As indicated by the chart below, union hotels typically trade at a lower price per key. However, it is important to note that there are many other factors that can impact a sale price, such as deferred maintenance and/or renovation plans, timing in the market, and interest sold (ie: fee simple vs. leasehold).

	Sele	ct Manhattan Hotel Sale	:5			
					Price	Union/
#	Property Name	Date	Keys	Sale Price	Per Room	Non Union
3	SIXTY SoHo	Feb-23	97	\$106,900,000	\$1,102,062	Non-Unio
4	New York Marriott East Side	Jan-23	655	\$154,000,000	\$235,115	Unio
5	Mr. C Seaport	Jan-23	66	\$60,000,000	\$909,091	Non-Unio
7	Kimpton Muse Hotel	Sep-22	200	\$49,500,000	\$247,500	Unio
8	Hilton Times Square*	Sep-22	478	\$85,000,000	\$177,824	Uni
16	The Hotel at Times Square	Feb-22	213	\$59,500,000	\$279,343	Uni
17	Roger Smith Hotel*	Feb-22	134	\$41,396,953	\$308,932	Uni
19	Hyatt Centric Wall Street New York*	Dec-21	253	\$84,680,000	\$334,704	Uni
22	Doubletree Metropolitan	Dec-21	764	\$169,000,000	\$221,204	Uni
30	The Lexington Hotel, an Autograph Collection	Jun-21	725	\$185,300,000	\$255,586	Uni
36	Watson Hotel	Apr-21	596	\$175,000,000	\$293,624	Non-Uni
39	The Surrey	Dec-20	190	\$150,150,000	\$790,263	Unio
44	Royalton Hotel	Sep-20	168	\$40,840,000	\$243,095	Uni
45	Embassy Suites New York Midtown Manhattan	Aug-20	310	\$115,129,600	\$371,386	Non-Uni
				Union Average Non-Union Average	\$310,346 \$669,041	
otnote ale #	s*					
8	This property represents a leasehold interest & transaction reportedly resolu	ved a troubled loan situation				
17	Purchased to be converted into 81 time-share units					
19	Please note the property was sold as the Andaz Wall Street, and was conver	ted to Hyatt Centric by the buy	rer			

#### **Conclusions**

Based on the limited and preliminary review presented herein, we believe it is reasonable to expect that unionization of the subject property would lead to an approximate 15-20% decline in value, relative to the range presented in our pricing opinion report dated March 2, 2023.

This letter should not be considered or relied upon independent of the referenced pricing opinion report dated March 2, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

LW Hospitality Advisors®

## **EXHIBIT B**

### 2022 P&L provided to Lenders

### 2022 P&L provided to Appraiser

			Margaritaville Resort Times Square				
			Full Operating History				
					Actual - Year	r End 2022	
			Year Ending December 31:	2022			
			Number of Days in Year:	365			
			Number of Rooms:	234			
	YEAR	%	Annual Available Rooms:	85,410			
OPERATING REVENUE			Occupied Rooms:	64,668			
Rooms	18,895,115	86.9%	Annual Occupancy:	75.71%			
			Average Rate:	\$292.19			
Miscellanous Income	2,848,403	13.1%	RevPAR:	\$221.23			
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	21,743,519	100.0%					
			Revenue	\$ (000's)	Gross %	PAR	POR
DEPARTMENT EXPENSES			Rooms Revenue	18,895	86.9%	80,748	292.19
Rooms	7.275.201	02.5%	Other Operated Departments Revenue	2,848	13.1%	12,173	44.05
-			Amenity/Resort Fee Revenue	-	0.0%	-	0.00
TOTAL DEPT EXPENSES	7,275,201	33.5%	Retail Lease Income	-	0.0%	-	0.00
			Food & Beverage Lease Income	-	0.0%	-	0.00
TOTAL DEPARMENTAL PROFIT	14,468,318	66.5%	Total Revenue	21,744	100.0%	92,921	336.23
UNDISTRIBUTED EXPENSES			Departmental Expenses				
Administrative and General	2,440,244	11.2%	Rooms Expense	6,156	32.6%	26,306	95.19
Information & Telecomm.	218,762	1.0%	Other Operated Departments Expense	-	0.0%	-	0.00
			Amenity/Resort Fee Expense	-	0.0%	-	0.00
Sales and Marketing	2,155,888	9.9%	Total Departmental Expenses	6,156	28.3%	26,306	95.19
Property Maintenance	999,598	4.6%		45.555			
Utilities	959,904	4.4%	Departmental Income (Loss)	15,588	71.7%	66,615	241.05
TOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED EXPENSE	6,774,396	31.2%					
			Undistributed Operating Expenses		44.20/	10.100	27.72
GROSS OPER PROFIT	7,693,922	35.4%	Administrative & General	2,440	11.2%	10,428	37.73
SHOULD STERN HOLL	,,000,022	001170	Information & Telecommunications Systems Sales & Marketing	219 910	1.0% 4.2%	935 3,891	3.38 14.08
MANAGEMENT FEES	000 206	2 70/	Franchise Fees	645	3.0%	2,758	9.98
MANAGEMENT FEES	802,306	3.7%	Utility Costs	541	2.5%	2,758	8.36
			Property Operation & Maintenance	1,000	4.6%	4,272	15.46
INCOME BEFORE NON-			Total Undistributed Operating Expenses	5,755	26.5%	24,595	89.00
OPERATING INCOME &			Total Olidistributed Operating Expenses	3,733	20.370	24,333	05.00
EXPENSES	6,891,617	31.7%	Gross Operating Profit (GOP)	9.833	45.2%	42,020	152.05
l T			Gross operating Front (GOF)	3,633	43.2/0	42,020	132.03
NON-OPERATING EXPENSES			Fixed Charges				
Property And Other Taxes	1,368,397	6.3%	Management Fee	489	2.2%	2,091	7.57
			Property Taxes	1,779	8.2%	7,600	27.50
Insurance	444,162	2.0%	Insurance	575	2.6%	2,457	8.89
TOTAL NON-OPERATING EXPENSE	1,812,559	8.3%	Reserve for Replacement	- 3/3	0.0%	-	0.00
			Total Fixed Charges	2,843	13.1%	12,148	43.96
EBITD&A	5,079,058	23.4%	Jour They endiges	2,545	25.270	11,110	.5.50
I -			Hotel Cash Flow	6,990	32.1%	29,872	108.09

## **EXHIBIT C**

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 07/13/2023 10:27 AM INDEX NO. 655926/2021

NYSCEF DOC. 23-11071-pb Doc 22 Filed 08/01/23 Entered 08/01/23 18:12:36 Main Document 07/13/2023

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

560 SEVENTH AVENUE OWNER PRIMARY LLC,

Index No. 655926/2021

Plaintiff,

-against-

**JUDGMENT** 

DHG TSQ, LLC,

Defendant.

Defendant DHG TSQ, LLC, having made a motion for an order pursuant to CPLR 7510 and 7514 confirming the Final Award issued by Arbitrator Marc E. Isserles dated May 15, 2023 in favor of defendant and against plaintiff 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC in the total amount of \$3,080,864.75, entering judgment in favor of defendant, awarding defendant its reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses pursuant to Section 15.5 of the Hotel Management Agreement (HMA), together with costs and disbursements of this action, awarding post-judgment interest pursuant to CPLR 5003, and dismissing the action (the "Motion"), and due deliberation having been had thereon; and upon all the pleadings and prior proceedings had herein; and upon the Decision and Order of the Court dated July 5, 2023, granting the Motion and directing that a judgment be entered in favor of defendant subject to the terms of the Decision and Order, it is

ADJUDGED and DECLARED that plaintiff 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC's termination of defendant DHG TSQ, LLC is without legal basis under Section 4.1 of the HMA, and is thus ineffective; and it is further

ADJUDGED that defendant DHG TSQ, LLC, with an address of 200 West 55th Street, Suite 42, New York, New York 10019, shall have judgment and recover against plaintiff 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC, with an address of 31 West 27th Street, 9th Floor, New

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 07/13/2023 10:27 AM)

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York, New York 10001, in the amount of \$3,111,115.25, and defendant shall have execution X thereof; and it is further

ORDERED and ADJUDGED that the Complaint is dismissed with prejudice.

ENTER:

\_\_\_\_\_

Jennifer Schecter, JSC 7/7/23

FILED
Jul 13 2023

NEW YORK

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 07/13/2023 10:27 AM INDEX NO. 655926/2021 NYSCEF DOC. 23-11071-pb Doc 22 Filed 08/01/23 Entered 08/01/23 18:12:36 Main Document 07/13/2023 Pg 22 of 53

655926/2021

Judgment
Attorney for Judgment Creditor
JACKSON LEWIS PC
666 Third Avenue 29th Floor
New York, NY 10017
212-545-4067

1-1 FILED AND DOCKETED Jul 13 2023

AT 10:18 A M N.Y. CO. CLK'S OFFICE

## **EXHIBIT D**

# Mechanic's Lien



Claimant: Flintlock Construction Services LLC

585 North Barry Avenue Mamaroneck, NY 10543 914-630-7503

Andrew Weiss, Managing Member

To:

560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC c/o Soho Properties 9FL 31 West 27th Street Att: Sharif El-Gamal New York, NY 10001

560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC c/o Soho Properties - 6FL 362 Fifth Avenue Att; Sherif El-Gamal New York, NY 10001

Margaritaville Hotels Att: Legal Dept. 6900 Turkey Lake Road - Suite 200 Orlando, FL 32819

# **Notice of Lien**

Amount \$2,763,091.77

Premises known as

560 Seventh Avenue New York, NY

Block: 1012

Lot: 29

OWS CRE Funding Att: Loan Dept. 299 Park Avenue - 25FL New York, NY 10171

Reed Smith LLP Att: Gerard Hefner, Esq. 599 Lexington Avenue - 26FL New York, NY 10022

White & Williams LLP Att: Timothy Davis, Esq. 1650 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19103 105303

### NOTICE UNDER MECHANIC'S LIEN LAW

To the Clerk of the County of New York and all others whom it may concern:

ORIGINAL,

Please Take Notice, that

Flintlock Construction Services LLC

as lienor(s) have and claim a lien on the real property hereinafter described as follows:

(1) The names and residences of the lienor(s) are Flintlock Construction Services LLC

585 North Barry Avenue Mamaroneck, NY

Duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York

(2) The owner of the real property is 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC and the interest of the owner as far as known to the lienor(s) is Fee Simple

(3) The name of the party by whom the lienor(s) was (were) employed is: 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC

The name of the party to whom the lienor(s) furnished or is (are) to furnish materials or for whom the lienor(s) performed or is (are) to perform professional services is: 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC

(4) The labor performed and Supplied and Installed Concrete, Rebar, HVAC Equipment, Plumbing Materials, Fire material furnished were Protection Materials, Carpentry Materials, Elevators, Electrical Materials, Etc.

Block: 1012

<u>Lot</u>: 29

The materials actually manufactured for but not delivered to the real property ar N/A

The agreed price and value of the labor performed and value of the material furnished is

\$100,029,866.67

The agreed price and value of the material actually mfd. for but not delivered to the real prop. is

The agreed fee for professional services is

Total agreed price and value \$100,029,866.67

The amount unpaid to the lienor(s) for said labor

performed and said material furnished is

\$2,763,091.77

The amount unpaid to lienor(s) for material actually mfd. for but not delivered to the real prop. is

Total amount unpaid \$2,763,091.77

The total amount claimed for which this lien is filed is

\$2,763,091,77

(6) The time when the first item of work was performed was

1/4/2018

The time when the first item of material was furnished was

1/4/2018

The time when the last item of work was performed was

2/22/2023

The time when the last item of material was furnished was

2/22/2023

(7) The property subject to the lien is situated in New York, County of New York, State of New York

Known as:

560 Seventh Avenue

New York, NY

That said labor and materials were performed and furnished for and used, and that the professional services rendered used, in the improvement of the real property hereinbefore described.

Dated July 13, 2023

Andrew Weiss, Managing Member of

Flintlock Construction Services LLC

105303

D ORIGINAL

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF New York

Andrew Weiss being duly sworn, says

that deponent is Managing Member named in the within notice of lien and the lienor(s) mentioned in the foregoing notice of lien; that deponent has read the said notice and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true to deponent's own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief, and that as to those matters deponent believes it to be true.

Managing Member

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF

being duly sworn, says

that deponent is the of

herein, that deponent has read the foregoing notice of lien and the same is true to deponent's own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters deponent believes it to be true. The reason why this verification is made by deponent is that deponent is an officer,

to wit, the of

which is a corporation, and deponent is familiar with circumstances herein based upon information provided.

State of New York

County of Nassau

On the 13 day of July in the year 2023, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Andrew Weiss, Managing Member personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same in his/her capacity, and that by his/her signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which individual acted, executed the instrument.

Signature of Notary Public

ZACHARY NASH NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK No. 01NA6304347 registration. Qualified In Nassau County

Commission Expires May 27, 2026

20 % NI 71 TAT EAR

# Mechanic's Lien

D ORIGINAL

Claimant Broadtrade Group Inc.

1 Penn Plaza - Suite 4200 New York, NY 10119 212-868-3088

Gary Ling, Director

To:

560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC c/o SOHO Properties - 9FL 31 West 27th Street Att: Sharif El-Gamal New York, NY 10001

Flintlock Construction Services LLC Att: Andrew Weiss 585 North Barry Avenue Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Margaritaville Hotels Att: Legal Dept. 6900 Turkey Lake Road - Suite 200 Orlando, FL 32819

# **Notice of Lien**

Imount \$302,158.56

Premises known as

207 West 40th Street "Margaritaville Resort"
New York, NY

Block:

1012

Lot:

29

OWS CRE Funding

Att: Loan Dept.

299 Park Avenue - 25FL New York, NY 10171

Reed Smith LLP Att: Gerard Hefner, Esq. 599 Lexington Avenue - 26FL New York, NY 10022

White & Williams LLP Att: Timothy Davis, Esq 1650 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19103 105251

# NOTICE UNDER MECHANIC'S LI

To the Clerk of the County of New York and all others whom it may concern:

### Please Take Notice, that

Broadtrade Group Inc.

as lienor(s) have and claim a lien on the real property hereinafter described as follows:

(1) The names and residences of the lienor(s) are Broadtrade Group Inc.

1 Penn Plaza - Suite 4200 New York NY 10119

being a Corporation Duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York

- (2) The owner of the real property is 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC and the interest of the owner as far as known to the lienor(s) is Fee Simple
- (3) The name of the party by whom the lienor(s) was (were) employed is: Flintlock Construction Services LLC

The name of the party to whom the lienor(s) furnished or is (are) to furnish materials or for whom the lienor(s) performed or is (are) to perform professional services is: Flintlock Construction Services LLC

(4) The labor performed and Supplied and Installed HVAC Equipment, Electrical Materials, Plumbing Materials, Etc. material furnished were

Block:

1012

29

The materials actually manufactured for but not delivered to the real property are N/A

The agreed price and value of the labor

performed and value of the material furnished is

\$25,226,162.49

The agreed price and value of the material actually mfd. for but not delivered to the real prop. is

The agreed fee for professional services is

Total agreed price and value \$25,226,162.49

The amount unpaid to the lienor(s) for said labor

performed and said material furnished is

\$302,158,56

The amount unpaid to lienor(s) for material actually mfd, for but not delivered to the real prop. is

Total amount unpaid \$302,158.56

The total amount claimed for which this lien is filed is

\$302,158.56

(6) The time when the first item of work was performed was

1/5/2019 1/5/2019

The time when the first item of material was furnished was

The time when the last item of work was performed was

11/17/2022

The time when the last item of material was furnished was

11/17/2022

(7) The property subject to the lien is situated in New York, County of New York, State of New York

Known as:

207 West 40th Street "Margaritaville Resort"

New York, NY

That said labor and materials were performed and furnished for and used, and that the professional services rendered were used, in the improvement of the real property hereinbefore described.

Dated July 11, 2023

Mark Nash, as Agent of Broadtrade Group Inc. For Filing Purposes Only



Main Document

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF

INDIVIDUAL OR PARTNER

being duly sworn, says

that deponent is of the co-partnership named in the within notice of lien and the lienor(s) mentioned in the foregoing notice of lien; that deponent has read the said notice and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true to deponent's own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief, and that as to those matters deponent believes it to be true.

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF New York

CORPORATION

Mark Nash being duly sworn, says

that deponent is the Agent of Broadtrade Group Inc.

herein, that deponent has read the foregoing notice of lien and the same is true to deponent's own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters deponent believes it to be true. The reason why this verification is made by deponent is that deponent is an officer,

to wit, the Agent of Broadtrade Group Inc.

which is a Domestic corporation, and deponent is familiar with circumstances herein based upon information provided.

Mark Nash, as Agent of Broadtrade Group Inc. For Filing Purposes Only

State of New York

County of Nassau

On the 11 day of July in the year 2023, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared Mark Nash, Agent personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she executed same in his/her capacity, and that by his/her signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which individual acted, executed the instrument.

Signature of Notary Public

LALLCHAN HARDEO NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK Registration No. 01HA6401618 Qualified in Queens County Commission Expires December 16, 2023

05:6 HA 11 JUL EVING

## **EXHIBIT E**

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 06/14/2023 04:27 PM INDEX NO. 654427/2022 NYSCEF DOC. 23-11071-pb Doc 22 Filed 08/01/23 Entered 08/01/23 18:12:36 Main Document 06/14/2023 Pq 31 of 53

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

-----X

GARMENT CENTER CONGREGATION,

: Index No.: 654427/2022

Plaintiff,

: Date Purchased: 11/18/22

-against-

:

SEVENTH AVENUE DEVELOPMENT, LLC, 560 SEVENTH AVENUE OWNER LLC, 560 SEVENTH AVENUE OWNER PRIMARY LLC and STEWART TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY,

: VERIFIED AMENDED: COMPLAINT

•

Defendants.

-----X

Plaintiff Garment Center Congregation ("GCC," the "Congregation," or "Plaintiff"), as and for its complaint against defendants Seventh Avenue Development, LLC, 560 Seventh Avenue Owner LLC, 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC (collectively, "Developer") and Stewart Title Insurance Company, alleges and says:

### **INTRODUCTION AND NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. GCC is an iconic and vibrant Jewish congregation established in Manhattan over 90 years ago. Until recently, it was a thriving congregation, with its synagogue housed at West 40<sup>th</sup> Street and Seventh Avenue in Manhattan's Garment District since 1965. GCC was forced to vacate the space for temporary quarters in 2014, as Developer undertook redevelopment of the property. Developer purchased the property from The New School in 2014 with plans to build a hotel, and had committed to providing GCC with an updated, modern synagogue at the redeveloped site and to secure and pay for suitable temporary space in the neighborhood for GCC until the new building – and the new synagogue – was completed. GCC has a long-term lease that entitles it to prominent space in the building and temporary housing in the case of any renovations, and Developer promised it would fulfill their obligations.

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- 2. With callous disdain for GCC and its congregants, Developer has utterly failed to honor its commitments. Developer let the lease for temporary space for GCC lapse and has failed to move forward with the build-out of the new synagogue. As a result, the Congregation has been homeless since 2020, with no ability to hold in-person services or activities. Developer completed the redevelopment of the property in 2021. The property is now the location of Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Resort Times Square, but plaintiffs are still looking for their lost synagogue.
- 3. The Congregation, which for years held three services daily in addition to services on holidays and other special occasions, had long been a valuable and beloved resource not only for a strong and dedicated membership comprised mainly of Jews who worked in midtown (with a few notable celebrities, such as Jackie Mason, counted among the High Holy Days regulars), but also for a steady stream of international visitors to New York, including worshippers from Israel, France, England, Australia and South Africa. The location of the synagogue was a significant factor in maintaining its popularity, as it was easily accessible from Penn Station, Grand Central Station, the Port Authority, and Times Square.
- 4. Sadly, since the time that GCC was forced by Developer to temporarily leave its longstanding home for smaller, temporary quarters in 2014 (at 1384 Broadway), as a result of Developer's purchase and demolition of the premises, and particularly since GCC was rendered homeless in 2020 because Developer defaulted in its rent obligation and failed to renew the lease at GCC's temporary location, GCC has been experiencing a drastic decline in its membership and its very survival has been threatened by Developer's various breaches. Apparently more concerned with its bottom line and demonstrating no interest in honoring its commitments to GCC, Developer has refused to rebuild the Congregation's synagogue.

5. GCC brings this action to enforce its rights and recover its damages. GCC seeks specific performance with respect to Developer's obligation to build the new synagogue to GCC's specifications; appropriate declaratory and injunctive relief; and monetary damages against Developer, who must be held accountable for its various breaches and tortious acts.

### **THE PARTIES**

- 6. At all relevant times, plaintiff GCC was and is a corporation organized and existing under the Religious Corporations Law of the State of New York, with a place of business in New York, New York.
- 7. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, defendant Seventh Avenue Development, LLC ("Seventh Avenue Development") was and is a limited liability company organized and existing under Delaware law, with a place of business located at c/o Soho Properties Inc., 31 West 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York.
- 8. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, defendant 560 Seventh Avenue Owner LLC was and is a limited liability company organized and existing under Delaware law, with a place of business located at c/o Soho Properties Inc., 31 West 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York. Upon information and belief, 560 Seventh Avenue Owner LLC is successor to Seventh Avenue Development.
- 9. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, defendant 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC was and is a limited liability company organized and existing under Delaware law, with a place of business located at c/o Soho Properties Inc., 31 West 27<sup>th</sup> Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York. Upon information and belief, 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC is successor to 560 Seventh Avenue Owner LLC. (560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC, 560 Seventh Avenue Owner LLC and Seventh Avenue Development are collectively referred to herein as "Developer").

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10. Upon information and belief, 560 Seventh Avenue Owner Primary LLC is the current owner of the real property at 750 Seventh Avenue (also known as 205 West 40<sup>th</sup> Street).

11. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, defendant Stewart Title Insurance Company ("Stewart Title") was and is a company duly organized and existing under New York law, with a place of business located at 140 East 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York. Stewart Title Insurance Company is named as a defendant because it is the Escrow Agent under escrow agreements that are the subject of relief requested in this action.

### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

### The 1977 Sale and Leaseback of the Premises at 750 Seventh Avenue

- 12. GCC was founded in New York City in 1931 and has become a highly regarded and beloved congregation, with many laudatory news stories written about it over the years.
- 13. Initially, the Congregation worshipped in the back of a barbershop, and then above a tobacconist in Herald Square. In 1965, the Congregation purchased the real property at 750 Seventh Avenue (also known as 205 West 40<sup>th</sup> Street) (the "Premises") and relocated to the building at the Premises (the "Building"), where it operated a synagogue and maintained offices in the basement and on the ground floor.
- 14. Pursuant to a contract of sale dated April 21, 1977, GCC sold the Premises to industrialist and philanthropist Albert A. List ("List"), a member of the Congregation, who sought to use the remainder of the Building for the New School for Social Research (now known as the New School). As part of the transaction, GCC and List entered into a written lease agreement dated May 4, 1977 (as amended, the "Lease"), in which space on the ground floor and in the basement of the Building was leased to GCC (as "Tenant") by List (as "Landlord") for a term of 99 years, at a rental of \$1.00 per year. (A copy of the Lease is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"). Currently, the Congregation's lease is set to expire in 2076.

- 15. Under the Lease, Landlord agreed to "maintain and make all structural and non-structural repairs to the demised premises," and to "pay all ordinary and necessary costs of the operation and maintenance of the demised premises of whatsoever kind or nature, including but not limited to the cost of public liability and fire and extended coverage insurance (including insurance on [the Congregation's] contents) . . . ." Ex. A, § 44.
- 16. The Lease also provides that if, "at any time after the fortieth (40) anniversary of the commencement date of this lease [*i.e.*, after May 2017]," the Landlord "desires to demolish the [Building], the Landlord may . . . require [the Congregation] to vacate the demised premises, provided that Landlord agrees . . . to provide Interim Quarters . . . for [the Congregation] at Landlord's expense and to include in the new improvement to be constructed at the site of the demised premises . . . a synagogue and general offices for [the Congregation] at least equal to the demised premises in size and quality," with the new improvement subject to the Congregation's approval. Ex. A, § 43.
- 17. On or about June 29, 1978, pursuant to an Assignment of Leases, the Lease was assigned by List to The New School.

### **Developer's Purchase of the Premises and Agreements with the Congregation**

18. Developer purchased the Premises from The New School pursuant to an Agreement of Sale dated September 27, 2013. As part of the transaction, Developer assumed the Landlord's obligations under the Lease, and became the Successor Landlord.

#### **The First Lease Amendment**

19. Intent on immediately redeveloping the Premises to maximize its commercial value, Developer sought to have the Congregation temporarily vacate the Building approximately three years earlier than the Congregation was required to vacate under the Lease. On or about February 7, 2014, a First Amendment to Lease (the "First Lease Amendment") was

entered into between Developer and GCC, in which GCC agreed to temporarily relocate from the Building earlier than the date provided for in the Lease in order to permit redevelopment of the Premises. (A copy of the First Lease Amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit "B").

- 20. Under the First Lease Amendment, Developer promised to design and construct at the Premises, with the Congregation's input, a fully remodeled, updated synagogue no smaller than the original one, with "programming and minimum specifications" that "shall be consistent with the use currently being made of the Demised Premises by [the Congregation] [the "Permanent Quarters"]." *See* Ex. B, § 6 & Sched. III.
- 21. The First Lease Amendment also provides that Developer will provide the Congregation, "at [Developer's] sole cost and expense," a "lease or other occupancy agreement ('Interim Quarters Lease')," and to pay all the costs of operating the synagogue at that temporary location, "for a term . . . to continue until and terminate no earlier than[] the date that [the Congregation's] occupancy has been restored . . . into the Permanent Quarters" at 560 Seventh Avenue. *See* Ex. B, § 4.
- Developer committed to "pay[] all of the costs of, and perform[] all of the other obligations . . . under the Interim Quarters Lease and otherwise relating to[] the temporary occupancy by Tenant of the Interim Quarters (notwithstanding any delays in . . . Landlord's construction of the New Building)," including moving and storage costs. *See* Ex. B (First Amendment to Lease) § 4 & Sched. I; *see also* Ex. A (Lease) § 43 ("Landlord agrees to pay all costs of moving Tenant to the Interim Quarters, all occupancy costs at such location as are paid by Landlord at the demised premises under this lease, all costs of storage of Tenant's personal property and fixtures not used at the Interim Quarters, and all costs of moving Tenant from the Interim Quarters to the New Building, and will replace or restore any of Tenant's personalty damaged in said moves.").

- 23. The First Lease Amendment further provides that prior to GCC's move into the Interim Quarters, Developer shall provide to GCC, for GCC's approval prior to construction of the new building, draft programming and minimum specifications for the Permanent Quarters. (Ex. B, § 6).
- 24. In consideration for the Congregation's agreement to temporarily vacate the Premises before the end of the 40-year waiting period, Developer agreed, as set forth in the First Lease Amendment, to pay to GCC the total sum of \$5 million, as follows:
  - \$100,000 on the Effective Date of the First Lease Amendment;
- \$2,400,000 to be paid to GCC simultaneously with GCC's move-out of the Premises; and
- \$2,500,000 (the "Payout Escrow") to be paid by Developer into escrow and released to GCC upon completion of the project, abandonment of the project, or an intervening default by Developer of its obligations under the parties' agreements.
- 25. As a further inducement for GCC to vacate the Building prior to the 40-year waiting period, Developer promised to pay GCC's attorneys' fees and owner's representation fees for the project. *See* Ex. B (First Amendment to Lease), § 4.
- 26. The First Amendment also provides that, "[i]n the event [the Landlord] or [the Congregation] commences an action or proceeding against the other party with respect to the Lease, as modified by this Amendment," the Congregation shall be "entitled to recover its expenses, including reasonable legal fees and expenses in connection therewith," if "Tenant is the prevailing party." *See* Ex. B (First Amendment to Lease), § 13.

#### The Second Lease Amendment/Interim Quarters at 1384 Broadway

27. On or about December 3, 2014, Developer and the Congregation entered into a Second Amendment to Lease (the "Second Lease Amendment"), in which the parties identified

the "Interim Quarters" as a portion of the premises at 1384 Broadway. (A copy of the Second Lease Amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit "C").

- 28. Because the space at 1384 Broadway was insufficient for larger events, the Developer also promised to provide the Congregation with access to Gotham Hall, an event space at 1356 Broadway, and to pay all event-related costs, during the High Holidays. *See* Ex. C, §§ 4, 8.
- 29. Developer agreed to pay an additional \$1 million into escrow to secure the payment of any amounts past due by Developer under the 1384 Broadway lease or the agreement with Gotham Hall, or the cost to perform any obligation that Developer failed to perform under such lease or agreement (the "Security Escrow"). *See* Ex. C (Second Amendment to Lease), § 7.
- 30. On or about December 8, 2014, Developer entered into a lease with the owner of 1384 Broadway for the Interim Quarters, and simultaneously entered into a sublease with the Congregation for the Interim Quarters.
- 31. The Congregation moved out of the Premises and into the leased space at 1384 Broadway in December 2014.
- 32. Almost immediately after the Congregation vacated the Premises, Developer failed to make timely rent payments at 1384 Broadway and failed to cover other costs of the Congregation's temporary occupancy there. Developer also eventually failed to provide the Gotham Hall space to the Congregation for the High Holidays.
- 33. As a result of Developer's ongoing failure to pay rent and other costs for the Interim Quarters, the landlord at 1384 Broadway commenced an action in New York State Supreme Court in September 2020 against, *inter alia*, Developer and GCC. The lawsuit, combined with Developer's refusal to renew the 1384 Broadway lease beyond its June 30, 2020

expiration, resulted in GCC's inability to return to the Interim Quarters after it had temporarily vacated the space in March 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

- On or about August 11, 2020, the landlord at 1384 Broadway offered to allow the Congregation to continue its occupancy by entering into a new lease directly with the landlord. On August 18, 2020, the Congregation requested the release of the Security Escrow and the Payout Escrow so that it could enter into such a new lease. Both the Security Escrow and the Payout Escrow were immediately due to the Congregation because of Developer's breaches of the Amended Lease. However, Developer objected to the Congregation's request, falsely claiming that there was no basis for the release of the monies. Because there was a dispute between the parties, the escrow agent did not distribute the monies to the Congregation. Accordingly, GCC could not continue its occupancy at 1384 Broadway.
- 35. After the resumption of in-person services and activities by religious congregations in New York City during the COVID-19 pandemic, Developer failed to secure a new temporary space for GCC.

#### **The Escrow Agreements**

- 36. Pursuant to the First Lease Amendment, an escrow agreement was entered into by and among GCC, Developer and Stewart Title ("Escrow Agent") on or about April 3, 2014 (the "2014 Escrow Agreement"), with respect to the Payout Escrow (\$2.5 million).
- 37. Pursuant to the Second Lease Amendment, a second escrow agreement was entered into by and among GCC, Developer and Escrow Agent on or about May 29, 2015 (the "2015 Escrow Agreement"), with respect to the Security Escrow (\$1 million). (The 2014 Escrow Agreement and the 2015 Escrow Agreement are collectively referred to herein as the "Escrow Agreements").

- 38. In a series of six agreements dated between June 30, 2017 and August 21, 2018 (the "Interim Escrow Agreements"), Developer and GCC agreed to allow money from the Payout Escrow and the Security Escrow to be used to pay certain debts owed by Developer under the Amended Lease, the 1384 Broadway lease, and the 1384 Broadway sublease.
- 39. The Congregation was induced to enter into these Interim Escrow Agreements because Developer's principal, Sharif El-Gamal, represented to officers of the Congregation that Developer did not have funds to pay the unpaid debts and threatened the Congregation that Developer would become insolvent and the 560 Seventh Avenue redevelopment project would fail, and the Congregation would never be restored to the Building, if Developer or its affiliates did not immediately pay Developer's debts.
- 40. Under the Interim Escrow Agreements, Mr. El-Gamal, the principal of Developer, committed to replenish both the Payout Escrow and the Security Escrow to the extent that funds were released by the Escrow Agent to creditors of Developer as demanded by Developer.
- 41. Pursuant to the Interim Escrow Agreements, a total of approximately \$800,000 has been released from escrow to Developer and/or vendors or creditors of Developer. The time for replenishment by Developer under each of the Interim Escrow Agreements has expired, and Developer has failed to replenish the escrow funds for the benefit of the Congregation.

### Developer Fails to Move Forward with Building the New Synagogue

- 42. Developer completed construction of a hotel at the Premises in or about June 2021. The newly-built hotel at the Premises, Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Resort Times Square, opened to the public in July 2021.
- 43. On September 29, 2021, Developer's principal, Sharif El-Gamal, met with the Congregation at the Premises and conducted a walk-through of the space that is to house the Permanent Quarters. The space allocated for the Permanent Quarters was only a fraction of the

required square footage pursuant to the Amended Lease. Moreover, although the Margaritaville Resort was completed and open for business, very little construction had been done to rebuild the synagogue, and the space appeared to be used for storage by Developer for a restaurant at the hotel. Developer failed to provide the Congregation with design, programming, and minimum specification documents for the new synagogue.

- 44. Following the September 29, 2021 meeting, the Congregation sent multiple requests to Developer for additional information regarding construction and a timeline.
- 45. On October 21, 2021, Developer provided a proposal to the Congregation for the new synagogue, which had substantial infirmities. Among other things, the space proposed for the Congregation was approximately 50% smaller than the Permanent Quarters required by the Amended Lease. In the main sanctuary alone, the proposal was for 179 seats, down from 300 in the original space. In addition, the proposed quarters did not include the equipment, functionality or amenities to which the Congregation is entitled under the Amended Lease.
- 46. The Congregation sent follow-up requests for additional information to Developer on October 27, 2021 and November 4, 2021. These requests were ignored.
- 47. Failing to receive a viable plan from Developer regarding the construction, on December 6, 2021, the Congregation formulated and sent to Developer a scope of work plan and proposed schedule for the construction. The proposed schedule included a submission of concept design deadline of January 3, 2022 and a submission of schematic design phase deadline of January 31, 2022.
- 48. Developer initially advised that the scope and proposed schedule were "reasonable" and that it would use its good faith efforts to comply. However, apparently unwilling to build a synagogue in the hotel, Developer has failed to follow through. Upon

information and belief, to date Developer has not performed any of this work and has not obtained a temporary certificate of occupancy for the synagogue.

- 49. In early 2022, Developer expressed an interest in reaching a settlement with the Congregation whereby the Congregation would be compensated in return for surrendering its leasehold interest in the Premises. This proposal would leave the Congregation homeless and at the mercy of the real estate market to locate, acquire and renovate a new sanctuary, offices and other facilities. However, after months of delays and stall tactics, it has become apparent that Developer has no intention either to document an agreement to compensate the Congregation or to move forward with the build-out of the Permanent Quarters.
- 50. Upon information and belief, since 2014, Developer has intentionally withheld or delayed performing its obligations in the hopes that the Congregation's temporary dislocation would result in depletion or death of its membership, collapse of its community and cessation of its religious and social activities, thereby no longer requiring the new synagogue at 560 Seventh Avenue.
- 51. Time is of the essence for the Congregation, as its very survival depends on its ability to resume holding in-person services and activities.

## AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Contract/Specific Performance)

- 52. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 51 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 53. The Lease, together with the First Lease Amendment and Second Lease Amendment (collectively the "Amended Lease"), constitutes a valid and binding contract between GCC and the Developer.
  - 54. GCC has performed all of its obligations under the Amended Lease.

- 55. Developer has not performed, but is able to perform, its obligations under the Amended Lease.
- 56. Under the Amended Lease, Developer must, *inter alia*, provide the Congregation with Permanent Quarters that meet certain specifications, including that the Permanent Quarters must "contain at least the same square feet as the square footage of the Demised Premises." *See* Ex. B (First Amendment) Sched. III.
- 57. Developer has indicated to the Congregation that it has no intention of building Permanent Quarters consistent with the minimum requirements set forth in the Amended Lease, or allowing such Permanent Quarters to be built, and to date has failed to build the Permanent Quarters.
- 58. If the Congregation is deprived of the unique synagogue space it was promised, the Congregation will have no adequate remedy at law.
- 59. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to an order directing Developer to comply with the terms of the Amended Lease and build the Permanent Quarters, to the specifications provided by the Congregation, in a timely fashion.

# AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Contract/Monetary Damages)

- 60. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 59 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 61. Developer also has breached its obligations under the Amended Lease by, *inter alia*, failing to make required payments to GCC, including but not limited to the \$2.5 million Payout Escrow, failing to provide Interim Quarters to GCC and failing to pay for various expenses of the Congregation.
- 62. As a result of Developer's breaches of the Amended Lease, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer damages, including but not limited to out-of-pocket expenses, loss of

use, and consequential damages, in an amount to be determined at trial, together with attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

### AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Declaratory Judgment)

- 63. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 62 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 64. There is a justiciable controversy between Plaintiff and Developer regarding the specifications of the synagogue space that must be delivered to the Congregation.
- 65. If the Congregation is deprived of the unique synagogue space it was promised, the Congregation will have no adequate remedy at law.
- 66. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to an order declaring that Developer must comply with the terms of the Amended Lease and build the Permanent Quarters, to the specifications provided by the Congregation, in a timely fashion.

## AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Injunctive Relief)

- 67. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 66 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 68. Plaintiff is threatened with the continued loss of members of the Congregation, and possible extinction, based on Developer's aforementioned breaches of the Amended Lease.
- 69. Developer has no justifiable basis in law or fact for its failures to comply with the Amended Lease.
- 70. Upon information and belief, Developer is using the space in which the new synagogue is supposed to be built for storing construction and/or other equipment and items. Moreover, upon information and belief, the side entrance to the Building, which is supposed to

be for access to the eventual new synagogue, is adorned with a marquee that states "Rooftop Bar."

- 71. Plaintiff has suffered irreparable harm and will continue to suffer irreparable harm, which cannot be compensated with money damages, if Developer is not enjoined from using the space at the Premises that is supposed to house the Permanent Quarters for any purpose aside from the construction of the Permanent Quarters.
  - 72. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.
- 73. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to injunctive relief enjoining Developer from using the space at the Premises that is supposed to house the Permanent Quarters for any purpose aside from the construction of the Permanent Quarters.

# AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing)

- 74. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 73 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 75. Developer failed to perform its obligations under the Amended Lease in good faith and did not use its best efforts to deal fairly with the Congregation. In fact, Developer acted to frustrate the Congregation's ability to enjoy the benefits of its bargain by, *inter alia*, failing to build the Permanent Quarters for the Congregation in a timely fashion.
- 76. By intentionally failing to build the Permanent Quarters in a timely fashion, Developer injured the right of the Congregation to receive the full benefits of the parties' agreement.
- 77. As a result of the foregoing, Developer has frustrated the purpose of the parties' agreement and breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.
  - 78. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

79. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to an order directing Developer to build the Permanent Quarters, to the specifications required provided by the Congregation, in a timely fashion.

### AS AND FOR A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Declaratory Judgment – Escrow Agreements)

- 80. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 79 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 81. There is an actual and justiciable controversy between Plaintiff and Developer with respect to the release (and replenishment) of funds pursuant to the Escrow Agreements and Interim Escrow Agreements, which controversy requires immediate resolution.
  - 82. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.
- 83. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to an order declaring that Developer must fully replenish the funds removed from escrow pursuant to the Interim Escrow Agreements and that the Payout Escrow funds in the total amount of \$2.5 million) be released to plaintiff, and directing the Escrow Agent to deliver such funds to Plaintiff.

## AS AND FOR A SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Unjust Enrichment)

- 84. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 83 above as if set forth fully herein again at length.
- 85. By reason of the foregoing, Developer has been unjustly enriched at Plaintiff's expense.
  - 86. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.
- 87. In equity and good conscience, Developer should not be allowed to retain the benefits of the Amended Lease without duly compensating Plaintiff therefor.

88. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial, together with attorneys' fees, costs and interest.

#### WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment as follows:

- A. On the First Cause of Action, directing Developer to comply with the terms of the Amended Lease and build the Permanent Quarters, to the specifications provided by the Congregation, in a timely fashion;
- B. On the Second Cause of Action, awarding plaintiff damages against Developer in an amount to be proven at trial, together with attorneys' fees and interest thereon;
- C. On the Third Cause of Action, declaring that Developer must comply with the terms of the Amended Lease and build the Permanent Quarters, to the specifications provided by the Congregation, in a timely fashion;
- D. On the Fourth Cause of Action, enjoining Developer from using the space at the Premises that is supposed to house the Permanent Quarters for any purpose aside from the construction of the Permanent Quarters;
- E. On the Fifth Cause of Action, directing Developer to build the Permanent Quarters, to the specifications required provided by the Congregation, in a timely fashion;
- F. On the Sixth Cause of Action, declaring that Developer must fully replenish the funds removed from escrow pursuant to the Interim Escrow Agreements and that the funds in escrow (the Payout Escrow and the Security Escrow) be released to plaintiff, and directing the Escrow Agent, defendant Stewart Title Insurance Company, to deliver the funds to Plaintiff;
- G. On the Seventh Cause of Action, awarding plaintiff damages against Developer in an amount to be proven at trial, together with attorneys' fees and interest thereon;
  - H. Awarding plaintiff reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and

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I. Granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York June 12, 2023

#### TARTER KRINSKY & DROGIN LLP

Attorneys for Plaintiff

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#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEW YORK	)	
		SS
COUNTY OF NASSAU	)	

Arnold Brown, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am the President of plaintiff herein.
- 2. I have read the foregoing Verified Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof. The same is true as to my knowledge, except those matters therein which are stated to be alleged upon information and belief and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

Arnold Brown President

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12 day of June, 2023

Notary Public

KABIR S BHINDER

Notary Public - State of New York

NO. 01BH6424044

Qualified in Suffolk County

My Commission Expires Oct 25, 2025

### **EXHIBIT F**

Accusation made by the Debtor	Secured Party's Responses
Going forward, it is projected that the	By the Debtor's own statements and exhibits, the property
hotel can generate sufficient revenues to	is irreparably under water, with approximately \$400M of
pay post-petition debts, including some	debt and unpaid liabilities far exceeding any estimate of
level of debt service owed to the Senior	current or future value.
Mortgage Lender	
	The term sheet for DIP financing presented by the Debtor
	calls \$170M of proceeds which will require \$27M of
	payments over the twelve month period, not including
	debt service to the Loan or the Junior Mezz Loan. The
	hotel is projected to generate \$13M of net income
	according to the Debtor's evaluator.
Secured Party has moved without any	Overwhelming support is provided in Secured Party's
true evidentiary support	previous submissions as well as this statement for the fact
	that (1) the Debtor is completely under water with no
	hope of recovery, (2) mismanagement has resulted in
	numerous defaults and judgments against the hotel which
	put the franchise and lease agreements at risk, with tens
	of millions of dollars of unfunded commitments and
	payables, (3) several millions of dollars have been diverted
	from the property, (4) contracts have been amended to
	the detriment of the property without obtaining approval
	from lenders or even providing notice to lenders, and the
	Debtor made efforts to conceal/obfuscate those
	amendments so that lenders would not discover them,
	and (5) debt service payments under the Debtor's
	proposed restructuring plan would far outweigh property
	cash flows, sinking the hotel deeper and deeper into debt
	and putting Secured Lender's collateral at risk.
The Chapter 11 case is symbiotically tied	The two bankruptcy cases are completely independent.
to the upcoming Chapter 11 bankruptcy	Whether the hotel is solvent or not has no bearing on
filing by the hotel itself	whether the Debtor is solvent
The collateral is not declining in value	The property value is absolutely at risk of collapse due to
	the various defaults and judgments which the Debtor has
	allowed.
	Coormad Down, has been commelled to make williams of
	Secured Party has been compelled to make millions of
	dollars of protective advances in order to keep critical
	stakeholders paid and the Senior Loan in compliance.
	The Debtor's proposed DIP financing would cost the
	property over \$27M of fees and interest over a 12 month
	period, which is well in excess of cash flows that the hotel
	is expected to generate. On top of that, interest accruals
	on the Loan and Junior Mezzanine loan would put the
	hotel another \$19 M in debt.
	וויסנכו מוויסנווכו אָבַט וּאַי וווי מכטנ.

	Combined debt service of \$4M per month during the restructuring period (when the hotel is expected to generate less than \$2M per month of cash flows) will require significant equity infusions from Secured Party, which is not realistic given how clearly under water their equity position is. Absent a capital infusion of between \$30M and \$50M to keep the property afloat, the property's indebtedness levels will escalate to the point where Secured Party's position is wiped out – that more than satisfies the definition of "collateral that is declining in value"	
Payables to the franchisor and tenant	The Debtor has its timelines wrong and has this statement	
were not funded as a consequence of	backwards – the missed payments occurred before the	
the cash flow sweep	cash flow sweep was put into effect, when the Debtor was	
	diverting millions of dollars from the property. The cash	
	flow sweep was a consequence of the payables, and not	
Convert London do construcción con	the other way around	
Secured Lender does not provide any support for their \$87M claim, which	The payoff amount of the Loan is spelled out clearly in the loan agreement and the Debtor had knowledge of the	
appears to include runaway interest	exact amount that would be due upon maturity prior to	
appears to merado ramana, mecado	entering into the Loan. This is extremely disingenuous to	
	plead ignorance of agreed-upon loan terms	
	Accrued Balance on Loan (as of July 10, 2023):	
	Initial Loan: \$ 57,000,000	
	Initial Loan: \$ 57,000,000 Repayment (1.5x) \$ 85,500,000	
	less: 50% of Origination Fee: \$ (725,000)	
	less: Payments made to-date: \$ (4,230,098)	
	plus: Protective Advances: \$ 3,716,838	
	plus: Default Interest: \$ 1,385,974 plus: Late Charges: \$ 289,223	
	, -	
The fact that various items were not		
paid is consistent with accrual accounting and does not mean that reports were false or misleading	There's a world of difference between managing the timing of payments to vendors and the practices in which the Debtor engaged. On a monthly basis over the entire Loan term, the Debtor was reporting to all lenders that these payments were made and was diverting funds for those payments from the funds remitted to the lenders, in gross violation of the loan provisions. This fraudulent activity siphoned millions of dollars from the property for the benefit of the Debtor and to the detriment of lenders and the vendors	
The GCC matter will be resolved once	This position grossly misstates the facts surrounding the	
GCC makes up its mind as to how it	GCC space. Suffice it to say that the Debtor was in violation	
wants to proceed	of its commitments to the congregation before the ink was	
	even dry on the agreement, by failing to procure	

acceptable temporary worship space, failing to pay the relocation costs and rent, failure to even commence building out the replacement space or engage with the congregation in good faith to resolve their differences, resulting in a religious community with decades of history in NYC being homeless for years with no place to hold their services. This is emblematic of how this Debtor conducts its business and how little regard it has for binding legal agreements or matters of law.